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Date: October 27, 2003 Label No. ~~PA 1477186US~~

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Kim Blum
Name (Print)

Kim Blum
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: BROWN et al.) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/649,348) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: August 27, 2003) Confirmation No.: Unassigned
Docket No. 03029 (3600-374-11))

For: METHODS TO CONTROL AND/OR PREDICT RHEOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 27, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Since this application has a filing date after June 30, 2003, no copies of U.S. Patents/Patent Application Publications are provided.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before expiration of the three-month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. *See* 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

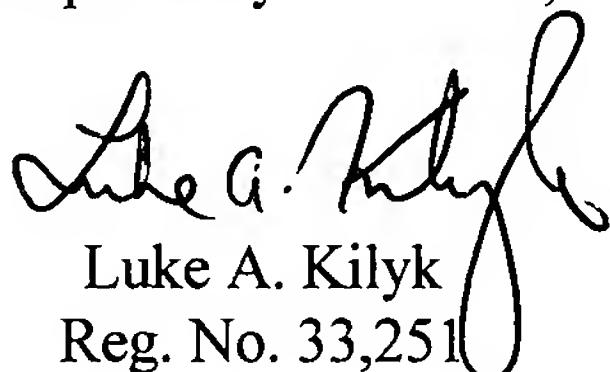
Information Disclosure Statement
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/649,348

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

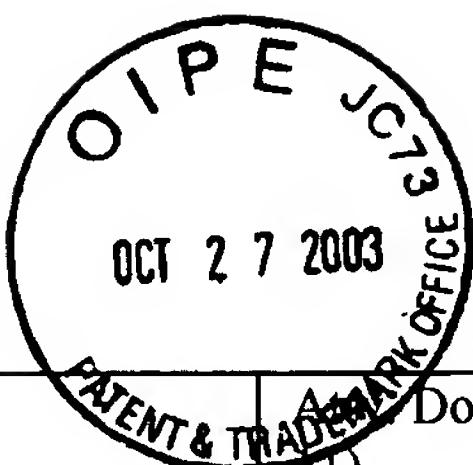
It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to Deposit Account No. 03-0060.

Respectfully submitted,



Luke A. Kilyk
Reg. No. 33,251

Atty. Docket No.: 03029 (3600-374-11)
KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C.
53 A East Lee Street
Warrenton, VA 20186
Tel.: (540) 428-1701
Fax: (540) 428-1720
Enclosures: PTO-1449, w/12 Documents



FORM PTO-1449 (REV 7-80)	Docket No. 03029 (3600-374-11)	Application No. 10/649,348
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

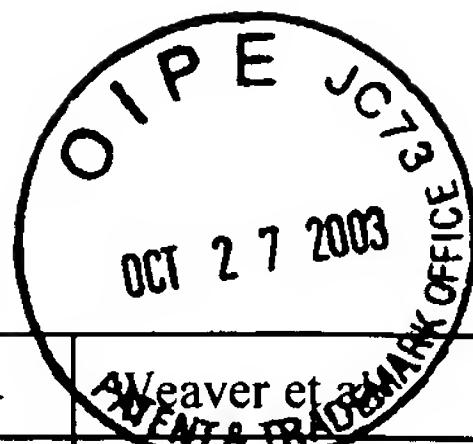
APPLICANT: BROWN et al.

Filing Date: August 27, 2003

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE, IF APPROPRIATE
	3,659,896	5/2/72	Smith et al.	296	93	
	4,071,496	1/31/78	Kraus et al.	260	42.36	
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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	“Bound Rubber and Carbon Black Reinforcement,” by E. M Dannenberg, 1986, pp. 512-524.
	“Filler-Elastomer Interactions. Part VII. Study on Bound Rubber,” by Siegfried Wolff et al., reprinted from RUBBER CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY, Vol. 66, No. 2, May-June 1993, 163-177.
	“Standard Test Method for Carbon Black – Iodine Adsorption Number,” ASTM Designation D 1510-99, pp. 271-275.
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	“Standard Test Method for Carbon Black – Total and External Surface Area by Nitrogen Adsorption,” ATSM Designation D 6556-00a, pp. 970-974.

	“Roles of Work of Adhesion between Carbon Blacks and Thermoplastic Polymers on Electrical Properties of Composites,” by Soo-Jin Park et al., published in the JOURNAL OF COLLOID AND INTERFACE SCIENCE 255, pp. 145-149 (2002).
	“Component Interactions and the Stability of Some Pigment/Polymer Dispersions,” by P. Mukhopadhyay et al., published in the JOURNAL OF APPLIED POLYMER SCIENCE, Vol. 67, pp. 245-253 (1998).
	“Adhesion and Components of Solid Surface Energies,” by John H. Clint, published in CURRENT OPINION IN COLLOID & INTERFACE SCIENCE 6, pp. 28-33 (2001).
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	“Basic and Acidic Surface Oxides on Carbon Fiber and Their Influence on the Expected Adhesion to Polyamide,” by A. Bismarck et al., published in COLLOIDS AND SURFACES, A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects 159, pp. 341-350 (1999).
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	